

CLUB DE VINCENT RUNS
DESPITE RUDE RAID

Liquid Refreshments Carried
Off, So Dancing Is Well
Nigh Impossible.

ALL BLAMED ON GEORGE

As for Mrs. Hawkesworth and
Mrs. Cater, They Are Ut-
terly Astounded.

There was dancing at the Club de Vincent at 42 East Fifty-ninth street last night, but somehow there was a bit of a lull in the sycophancy now and then that never had been there before. Said to relate, it was not the same as it used to be, and strange too, because the same sweet toned orchestra wafted out its in-
viting, swaying harmony, the same lovely little cosy corners held the same little tables and chairs and between dances the same gorgeously clad waiters brought to the same dainty tables the same d-d-r—ah, discovered! The reason, was the re-
freshments that were making this second anniversary of the club's founding less joyous than it might have been.
For last night over in the hostile, plectral Knickerbocker Storage lay "oh, somewhere around \$1,000 worth" of re-
freshments, rare and costly—wines in tall lean bottles and in squat fat bot-
tles with skinny necks, and equally bot-
tles of quarts and pints bearing instruc-
tions that they must rest flat on their
backs. Rude men from the State Ex-
cise Department had plucked these treas-
ures right out from the club members
own "private lockers" and hauled them
away in a common truck and left not a
drop of anything in the house but tea.

And So They Sent Out.
So last night the dark skinned man
who labors regularly at that duty sim-
ply had to trail back and forth from the
club mill a block and a half away on
Fifty-ninth street for every single bot-
tle of the thing that was wanted. And
the very best that a Fifty-ninth street
establishment can do should not be writ-
ten on the same typewriter that types
private lockers' filled with rare vin-
tages.

It took Misses R. W. Hawkesworth
and A. Cater, who are joint proprie-
tresses of the Club de Vincent, some time
to realize that these rude excise men and
their women accomplices had actually
found anything in the club that could
even be poured out of a bottle. But yes-
terday afternoon, some twenty-four
hours after it had happened, the terrible
truth had percolated and was clear as
the rarest of all the rare wines that ever
rested in a "private locker" in all the
two years of the club.

It was the hour of the Dancant, and
for the sum of \$1.50—\$1.50 a week—on
dancing days but Saturday—the third
business man could drop in on his way
home, have a few—have a few dances.
Mrs. Cater, the watchdog of the club, was
yelled, was traced by the sound of clinking
gold to her post near the door.

Only the Very Best People.
"Perfectly ridiculous!" she announced,
making change from a double William
the while. "The very idea of all this
publicity and using the name of the Club
de Vincent. Why, we have the very best
people in the city as our members and
there is no sweeter little place in all
New York than this. You see, from 10
to the evening until 2 in the morning
this is strictly a private club, but every
afternoon from 4 until 7 we're a bit
more democratic and our doors are open,
so to speak. And in order that every-
body may have a good time, we have
four young ladies and four young gen-
tlemen here to sort of help out with the
dancing. Lovely, isn't it? Sweetest
place in town. Don't you think so? Just
look around."

It was some sweet place, certainly. A
Tunisian garden, with dancing floor,
fountain music, fountains, fountains, fa-
cinating perfumes, wit and beauty and
laughter and with just a touch here and
there of the bizarre—a gallant youth
bowing to a matron, a debutante toying
with her gold tipped cigarette while the
waiter was hurrying—it takes several
minutes to go down stairs and then way
up to Fifty-ninth street.

"You see, we really have nothing to
do with it anyway," Mrs. Cater con-
tinued. "G. du Chesne leases the whole
down stairs and has the supper and
liquor privileges. His plan has been to
send down to the basement for all the
drinks ordered and at night when the
club members are here they must sign
for everything they order. Friday after-
noon, it seems, poor George had a
little left over—you know how that sort
of thing can happen—and just before
the afternoon crowd left I suppose he
must have served several without send-
ing the boy after them.

And those horrid excise men and
women who were dancing right here on
the floor went right down and took away
everything. But it makes absolutely no
difference to us, Mr. du Chesne, he is
the one. He is down stairs and those
lockers where the club members keep
their own stock are somewhere down
stairs too."

But neither G. du Chesne nor the
lockers could be found "somewhere down
stairs."

Twenty in Name Only.
Mrs. Cater enjoyed talking about the
history of the Club de Vincent. "We were
established two years ago with twenty
members—de Vincent, you know—clever,
lively 117. Now we have 700 members,
who pay \$25 yearly dues. And I have
lovely place used to be Mrs. Cornelius
Vanderbilt's stable. Of course, Mrs.
Hawkesworth and I own the fixtures and
everything, and the club members only
come at night. They're the very best
people in the town too. You see you have
to be proposed and seconded by a mem-
ber. And we have such fine times here
—lovely times—you know what I mean.
So unnecessary for those rude people to
bother us. This Mr. John T. McNeill
could so much better have picked on
some one else."

Mr. McNeill, special deputy commis-
sioner of Excise, promises to do this very
little thing. "This is just a good start,"
he said yesterday morning, "and start-
ing for Albany, where he made a special
report of the case to the State Ex-
cise Department. "Numerous cabarets, res-
taurants and so-called clubs have been
selling all kinds of alcoholic drinks
without paying the State for a license.
We are now devoting the time of about
one-half our detective force to looking
after these places."

Meanwhile the rare wines of the Club
de Vincent rest in safety in storage until
the case comes up in court. And every-
one has had a fair opportunity to make
a speech except G. du Chesne, who is
credited with having much to do with
the spilling of the beans—and the said
G. du Chesne could not be found neither
"somewhere upstairs" nor "somewhere
downstairs." One rude person surmised
that he must have been hiding in the
lockers.

Munday's Conviction Stands.

OTTAWA, Ill., Feb. 10.—The conviction
of C. B. Munday for violating the La-
salle Street Trust and Savings Bank
charter, was affirmed by the Appellate
Court of the Second district today.
Munday was the active head of the bank
founded by former Senator William Lor-
mer. Lorimer was tried and was ac-
cused.



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